

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following Paragraph [0096] for the paragraph starting at page 22, line 5 and ending at line 10.

[0096] After the completion of the foregoing process, the rear plate 1 and the face plate [[3]] are sufficiently aligned and airtightly bonded through a frame (~~side walls 2~~) to form the flat image-display device, ~~shown in Fig. 4~~. The outline of the image display device according to the invention will be described hereinafter.

Please substitute the following Paragraph [0098] for the paragraph starting at page 22, line 15 and ending at page 23, line 4.

[0098] A rear plate 1015, a side wall 1016 ~~1017~~, and a face plate 1017 make up an airtight container for maintaining the interior of the display panel in vacuum. In assembly of the airtight container, the joint sections of the components must be tightly bonded to have sufficient strength and airtightness, in which case, for example, they can be bonded by applying fritted glass to the joint sections and burning it in the atmosphere or a nitrogen atmosphere at 400° C to 500° C for more than 10 minutes. The method of evacuating the airtight container will be described later. Since the interior of the airtight container is maintained in a vacuum of about 10^{-4} Pa, it is provided with a spacer 1020 as an atmospheric-pressure resisting structure to prevent the breakage of the airtight container by atmospheric pressure or a sudden impact.

Please substitute the following Paragraph [0103] for the paragraph starting at page 24, line 7 and ending at line 18.

[0103] The spacer 1020 is made of a member which has an antistatic high-resistance layer 1021 on the surface of an insulating member [[1]] and a low-resistance layer (conductive film) 1022 on the contact surface 1023 of the spacer 1020 opposed to the inside (a metal back 1019 and so on) of the face plate 1017, the surface (the vertical wires 1013 and the transverse wires 1014) of the substrate 1011, and side faces 1024 in contact therewith. A required number of spacers 1020 to achieve the above object are arranged at a necessary distance and fixed on the inside of the face plate 1017 and the surface of the substrate 1011 with joint members 1041.